be considered by the Committee at its next meeting, a decision thereon would be on the merits of the case.

Setting-up of Private Universities

712. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Governments permitted setting up of private universities;

(b) whether such universities have also set-up their own subsidiary institutes in various other States and enrolled thousands of students to their various study programmes collecting exorbitant fees;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether the hon'ble Supreme Court recently struck down the law under which such private universities were set-up as ultra vires of the Constitution; and

(e) if so, the deails in this regard with fate of the students of the affected universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) The incorporation, regulation and winding up of Universities are within the competence of the State Legislatures. State Universities cannot setup off-campus centres outside the jurisdiction of the respective States. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), several private universities established in the State of Chhattisgarh under the Chhattisgarh Niji Kshetra Vishwavidyalaya (Sthapana Aur Viniyaman) Adhiniyam, 2002, had off-campus centres outside the State. The Supreme Court of India in its judgement in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 19/2004: Prof. Yash Pal & Ors. *Vs.* State of Chhattisgarh & Ors., declared the provisions of the State Act permitting off-campus centres outside Chhattisgarh to be ultra vires of the Constitution. Thus the private universities established under the Act have ceased to exist. The Supreme Court directed that the State Government may take appropriate measures to have these institutions affiliated to

the already existing State Universities in Chhattisgarh. It was further directed that the benefit of affiliation of an institution shall be extended only if it fulfills the requisite norms and standards laid down for such purpose and not to every kind of institution. Regarding technical, medical or dental colleges, etc. affiliation may be accorded if they have been established after fulfilling the prescribed criteria laid down by the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), Medical Council of India (MCI), Dental Council of India or any other statutory authority and with their approval or sanction as prescribed by law.

The Central Government has requested all the State Governments to get the off-campus centres of the erstwhile private universities of Chhattisgarh located in their respective States, affiliated to the jurisdictional State Universities in order to protect the interests of the affected students studying in them.

Centres of foreign educational institutions

†713. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any policy to permit foreign educational institutions to open their centres in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries granted permission in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No such policy has been finalised as yet.

(b) Does not arise.

JNVs in calamities affected regions

†714. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jawhar Navodaya Vidyalayas being run by his Ministry, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.